

Miss McLeod, A228, AFH
Library. ✓

AYLESBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR

1970

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

-----oooOooo-----

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

DR. A. W. PRINGLE, B.A., M.B., B.CH., D.P.H.

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

DR. G. SLOCOMBE, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

R.A.CANT, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., M.S.E.

DEPUTY CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

W.A.MATHER, A.M.I.P.H.E., M.A.P.H.I.

-----ooooOoooo-----



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2016 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b28817138>

AYLESBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

DR. A.W. PRINGLE,
B.A., M.B., B.CH., D.P.H.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
84, WALTON STREET,
AYLESBURY,
BUCKS.

June, 1971.

To the Chairman and Members of the
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF AYLESBURY

One of the difficulties in these days of rapid change is that by the time the Annual Report is published events have taken place which makes one's comments seem quite out of the date. We have had two Green Papers on the future structure of the National Health Service, the first produced in 1968 and the second in 1970, and the third is expected shortly. It remains to be seen whether it will propose any radical changes in the structure as already outlined. Only one firm fact of the Government's intentions has emerged so far; that the introduction of the new service will coincide with the implementation of the re-organisation of Local Government on 1st April, 1974, which in itself will involve major changes.

To those of us who work in Health Departments of Local Authorities these uncertainties can be unsettling, but the work which we do must be carried on because it is vital to the maintenance of public health and, equally clearly, will have to be carried on in the future no matter what new structure emerges or whatever additional new roles we may be asked to undertake. It is important, however, that our future roles should be known to us as soon as possible so that we can use the interim period preparing to take them over on the appointed day. Inevitably this will entail some training and re-orientation, but those of us who agree that an integrated health service will result in a better service are quite prepared to face these changes.

Vital Statistics

Turning to the vital statistics, the figures for this year do not suggest any obvious trends. For the first time since 1965 the birth rate is lower than that for England and Wales which would support the reason put forward in last year's Report. The percentage of live births which were illegitimate has remained the same as the previous year at 6%.

The infant mortality rate has been further reduced to 9.0 per 1,000 live births and an analysis of the 5 deaths which account for this rate shows that with one exception, a death due to accident, the infants all died in hospital. Three of the deaths were due to congenital malformations, one due to prematurity and one the result of severe injuries sustained in an accident. Research into the causation of congenital abnormalities goes on, but this is a very complex subject and it can be expected that the more gross cases will continue to be stillborn, and some of the lesser may only survive for a limited period. In view of the heroic efforts which are now made to achieve the survival of very premature infants, it can also be expected that a few may not survive.

Infectious Diseases

The figures for notifications of measles are high in spite of the measles vaccination campaign. This is disappointing, but if the remarks made in the Annual Report for 1969 about the shortage of vaccine from March, 1969 to April, 1970, and the fact that 1970 was an epidemic year, are taken into consideration, they become more understandable. The campaign which had just got under way lost its momentum, and because of the withdrawal of vaccine by one producer due to doubts about its safety, there was some loss of confidence amongst the general public. The figures certainly indicate that a critical eye should be kept on the situation over 1971.

Infectious Diseases (Cont'd).....

It will be noted that 49 deaths were due to pneumonia but it should be understood that although this disease was given as the primary cause of death, the underlying causes were such conditions as cancer, debility due to old age and a variety of chronic diseases.

The picture with regard to notified cases of food poisoning is somewhat brighter. As usual, all cases were investigated with particular attention to those involved in any way with the production or handling of food or milk. The veterinary officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food notified several instances of cattle being infected with food poisoning bacteria (usually *Salmonella dublin*) but no humans became infected as a result. The absence this year of cross infection must, in part, be due to visits to the farms concerned to advise farm workers on the risks involved and how to avoid them and also ensuring that all milk sold was pasteurised.

Examples of some of the rarer infections occurred during the year. A man who kept pigeons was diagnosed as having psittacosis, a disease usually carried by the parrot family - hence the restriction on the import of parrots. The disease does occasionally occur in domesticated pigeons which excrete the bacteria which, when dry, can be inhaled by humans when cleaning out pigeon lofts. The risk of infection to other people is minimal. The Webbridge laboratory of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food was prepared to carry out a bacteriological examination on the birds, but only when killed, and as the disease in humans is unpleasant and dangerous the owner of the pigeons agreed to destroy them all.

A man became seriously ill with leptospirosis, a disease spread by infected rats, guinea pigs and occasionally mice. He and his family lived in an isolated cottage near a farm and investigation of the farm buildings and surrounding area did not show evidence of rat infestation. However, his children kept guinea pigs and white mice as pets and it transpired that some of the guinea pigs had recently died in an unexplained way. Unfortunately the hospital concerned issued instructions before notification that the remainder should be destroyed and ~~their~~ bodies burned, thus preventing possible identification of the source of the infection.

Tuberculosis

There were 7 new cases of respiratory tuberculosis notified during the year. This is an increase of 2 cases compared with the previous year. The annual notification of new cases have been running at about this figure for the last 10 years. Although this has been below the rate for England and Wales it is disappointing, however, that there are no signs of complete eradication of the disease in spite of vaccination of school children, effective treatment and contact tracing. The picture is suggestive of a small number of cases who are infective for a period before they develop symptoms which are sufficiently obvious for them to seek medical advice. It is the detection of these unsuspecting cases that is proving so difficult. One example of this sort of situation could be the elderly person who develops a cough and is diagnosed as a case of chronic bronchitis and treated as such without further investigation. It might be thought that mass radiography is the answer but experience suggests that even when preceded by a publicity campaign a relatively small proportion of the population avail themselves of the opportunity to have a chest X-ray. The Oxford Regional unit visited some firms in the area during the year without discovering any new cases.

One Order under the Milk and Dairies Regulations was served on a milk producer whose herd was infected with brucella abortis. The Order, which required the producer to have all his milk pasteurised before sale, was later withdrawn when steps were taken to eliminate the infected animals from the herd and samples were satisfactory.

Drug Dependence

The local situation was briefly reviewed in last year's Report. Since then a County Committee, supported by area liaison Committees, has been established and quarterly meetings held. The Aylesbury area liaison Committee has wide representation over the field of those connected with youth in an educational and social setting and its first task has been to try to assess the extent of the problem locally and look critically at the counter measures being taken at present. Nobody who has thought seriously about the spread of drug taking can have imagined that easy solutions would be forthcoming but some valuable suggestions have been put forward by members and these are being acted upon.

I would again like to thank the members of the Committee for their continued advice and support throughout the year, my Deputy, Dr. Slocombe, the Chief Public Health Inspector and all members of the Public Health Department for their willing co-operation at all times.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A.W. PRINGLE, B.A., M.B., BCh., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

(a)	Area of the District	89,307 acres
(b)	Total Population (estimated mid-1970)	38,170.
(c)	Number of inhabited houses (end of 1970) according to Rate Book	12,168
(d)	Rateable Value	£1,409,580
(e)	Sum represented by a Penny Rate (new pence)	£13,735
	(old pence)	£5,723

V I T A L S T A T I S T I C S

	<u>1969</u>			<u>1970</u>		
	<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
Live Births - Legitimate	567	284	283	537	253	284
Illegitimate	39	25	14	35	15	20
Live birth rate per 1,000 population		16.3			15.0	
Birth rate (corrected)		16.8			15.5	
Birth rate for England & Wales		16.3			16.0	
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births		6.0			6.0	
<u>Still Births</u>						
Number	6	4	2	5	4	1
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births		10.0			9.0	
Total live and still births	612	313	299	577	305	272

DEATHS

<u>1969</u>			<u>1970</u>		
<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
387	187	200	395	209	186
			<u>1969</u>		<u>1970</u>
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population			10.4		10.3
Standardised Death Rate			9.8		9.9
Death Rate for England and Wales			11.9		11.7

	<u>1969</u>			<u>1970</u>		
<u>Infant Deaths</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
Number	7	3	4	5	4	1
<u>Infant mortality rates:</u>						
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births		12.0			9.0	
- do - Legitimate		12.0			9.0	
- do - Illegitimate		-			-	
Infant mortality rate for England & Wales		18.0			18.0	
<u>Neo-Natal mortality rate:</u>						
(Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)						
Number	1	0	1	3	3	0
Rate		2.0			5.0	
	-	6	-			

1969				1970			
	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	
<u>Early Neo-Natal mortality:</u> (Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)							
Number	-	-	-	2	2	-	
Rate		-			3.0		
<u>Perinatal mortality:</u> (Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)							
Number	6	4	2	7	6	1	
Rate		10.0			12.0		
DEATHS FROM CANCER (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	76

ANALYSIS OF DEATHS				1970		
Disease				Number of		Deaths
				Male	Female	Total
Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases	...			1	-	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...		1	-	1
Other tuberculosis	...	...	...	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, buccal cavity, etc.	...			2	-	2
Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus	...	...		2	1	3
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	3	2	5
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	...	...	...	7	4	11
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	11	4	15
Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	-	9	9
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	-	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, prostate	...	...	...	4	-	4
Leukaemia	...	...	...	2	-	2
Other malignant neoplasms	...	...	...	12	8	20
Benign and unspecified neoplasms	...	...	...	-	2	2
Diabetes Mellitus	...	...	...	2	-	2
Other endocrine etc. diseases	...	...	...	3	1	4
Anaemias	...	...	...	1	-	1
Other diseases of blood, etc.	...	...	...	-	1	1
Mental disorders	...	...	...	1	2	3
Other diseases of nervous system	...	...	...	2	-	2
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	...	...	...	1	2	3
Hypertensive disease	...	...	...	3	4	7
Ischaemic heart disease	...	...	...	52	40	92
Other forms of heart disease	...	...	...	7	11	18
Cerebrovascular disease	...	...	...	14	29	43
Other diseases of circulatory system	...			7	9	16
Influenza	...	...	...	2	-	2
Pneumonia	...	...	...	17	32	49
Bronchitis and emphysema	...	...	...	20	6	26
Asthma	...	...	...	-	2	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	...			3	2	5
Peptic ulcer	...	...	...	5	2	7
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	...	...		1	1	2
Other diseases of digestive system	...	...		3	-	3
Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	2	-	2
Other diseases, genito-urinary system	...			1	1	2
Diseases of skin, subcutaneous tissues	...			1	-	1
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	...	...		1	-	1
Congenital anomalies	...	...	...	3	2	5
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	...			1	-	1
Symptoms and ill defined conditions	...	...		1	-	1
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	3	2	5
All other accidents	...	...	...	3	2	5
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	...	...		3	-	3
All other external causes	...	...	...	-	1	1
				209	186	395

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES:

	<u>1969</u>		<u>1970</u>	
	<u>No. of Cases Notified</u>	<u>No. of Deaths</u>	<u>No. of Cases Notified</u>	<u>No. of Deaths</u>
Measles	39	-	187	-
Whooping Cough	1	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	3	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	41	-	49
Acute Meningitis	-	-	1	-
Dysentery	9	-	-	1
Food Poisoning	11	-	7	-
Infective Jaundice	7	-	3	-
Leptospirosis	-	-	1	-
	<u>70</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>199</u>	<u>50</u>

T U B E R C U L O S I S

1 9 7 0

<u>Age Periods</u>	<u>New Cases Notified</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>	
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
0	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
45	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
75 +	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>

Hospitals:

The Hospitals serving the District are the Royal Bucks, Tindal General, Stoke Mandeville and St. John's Hospital, Stone. Infectious disease cases are admitted to the Aylesbury Isolation Hospital which is attached to Stoke Mandeville Hospital and the Grove Hospital, Linslade is available for the admission of cases of smallpox at short notice.

Accident cases are taken to the Accident Department at the Royal Bucks Hospital.

St. John's Hospital, Stone admits psychiatric patients from a wide area and facilities provided for treatment have been progressively expanded over the years.

These hospitals are administered by the Royal Bucks and Associated Hospitals Management Committee.

The Sir Henry Floyd Auditorium at Stoke Mandeville Hospital, since its opening in 1969, has become an important centre for post graduate medical and para-medical education. Regular meetings for all branches of the health service were held in these very pleasant surroundings throughout the year.

Pathology Laboratory, Stoke Mandeville

Routine samples of milk, water and other specimens requiring bacteriological examination were sent to this laboratory throughout the year. Reports were received with the minimum of delay, and the help and advice given by the Medical Director were much appreciated.

Ambulance Services

These are provided by the Bucks County Council and are under the direction of the County Medical Officer. Nine ambulances, five dual purpose vehicles, one convertible ambulance car and one ambulance/sitting/wheelchair purpose built vehicle with hydraulic tail lift are available at the Ambulance Headquarters, Buckingham Road, for use in the Borough and surrounding Districts. There is two-way radio link between all vehicles and Headquarters. The majority of long distance journeys are carried out by train, stretcher cases being accommodated in reserved compartments.

Diphtheria, Tetanus, Whooping Cough, Measles and German Measles Immunisation, and Smallpox and Poliomyelitis Vaccination

The Bucks County Council, being the Local Health Authority as defined by the National Health Service Act, 1946, administer these services.

Treatment of Venereal Disease

A venereal disease clinic is held regularly at the Royal Bucks Hospital, Aylesbury, where free treatment is given. This clinic is administered by the Royal Bucks and Associated Hospitals Management Committee.

Child Health Clinics

<u>Fixed Centres:</u>	<u>Sessions</u>	<u>Attendances</u>	<u>Doctor attends</u>
Aston Clinton	1st & 3rd Friday	425	3rd Friday
Bierton	1st Tuesday (until October, 1970)	144	Each Session
Brill	3rd Friday	185	-
Grendon Underwood	2nd Monday	269	Each session
Haddenham	2nd & 4th Thursday	878	-
Long Crendon	2nd & 4th Thursday	684	2nd Thursday
Quainton	1st Tuesday	402	Each session
Stone	4th Tuesday	230	Each session
Waddesdon	3rd Tuesday	255	Each session
Wendover	Each Monday	3646	Each session
Weston Turville	3rd Thursday	229	Each session
Whitchurch	4th Friday	182	Each session
Halton	2nd & 4th Tuesday	437	-

Mobile Health Clinics

Bierton	1st Tuesday (from November, 1970)	25	Each session
Cuddington	} 1st Monday	81	Each session
Chearsley		55	Each session
Dinton		82	Each session
Shabbington	3rd Thursday	71	Each session
Ickford	3rd Thursday	52	Each session
Worminghall	3rd Thursday	67	Each session
Oakley	3rd Thursday	102	Each session

Attendances during 1970

Total number of attendances during the year:-

Child Health Clinics 7,966

Mobile Child Health Clinics ... 535

8,501

Child Health Clinics (Cont'd).....

There has been a change in emphasis in examinations carried out at these Clinics. Whereas in the past they were directed towards revealing physical defects and nutritional faults only, they are now equally concerned with the child's developmental progress. The children are seen, if possible, soon after birth and thereafter periodically to compare their progress with developmental norms for their age. Early methods of testing vision, hearing and other senses have been devised by Dr. Mary Sheridan and others, and these are also applied with a view to detection and treatment of defects as early as possible. Closer ties with the hospital paediatric department have been developed so that, after consultation with the child's general practitioner, specialist advice can be easily obtained. The usual range of child immunisations, including more recently measles, are carried out at the Clinics.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

PART I

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors) :-

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	8	2	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	52	2	2	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) 37		2	-	-
Total	97	6	-	-

PART VIII

(Sections 133 and 134)

OUTWORK

There are 17 outworkers registered in the District, 16 are engaged in the making of wearing apparel and 1 in the making of fireworks. The premises in which the work is carried out have been inspected and found to be satisfactory in accordance with conditions laid down in the Act.

June, 1971.

To the Chairman and Members of the
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF AYLESBURY

I have the honour to report on the work of the Inspectors' branch of the Department during the year 1970.

H O U S I N G

In my last Annual Report I referred to some notable changes in the Housing Act, 1969, particularly in regard to Improvement Grants. These changes may well have had some bearing on the applications received since the trend was quite dramatically changed from a slight decrease to almost twice the number for the previous year.

The work resulting from these cases is quite considerable, but the benefits achieved are very rewarding and give rise to a steady improvement in general housing standards.

Applications for Qualification Certificates have been fewer than might be expected. These certificates relate to the state of dwellings let on a controlled tenancy and are required in connection with rents of privately rented property when owners seek to make increases.

The first instance of unsatisfactory conditions arising from multiple occupation arose during the year. Although there were a number of complications the Council accepted that the premises were in fact a house in multiple occupation and took formal action to close part of the building. Fortunately the whole premises were then vacated and it was not necessary to call for works or a Management Order to control the position.

Repairs and Demolition:

78 properties were repaired as a result of formal and informal action during the year.

20 properties were represented as incapable of repair at reasonable expense and the appropriate notices were issued. As a result of these and earlier representations, 4 Demolition Orders and 16 Closing Orders were made, and 7 Undertakings to repair were accepted.

1 Demolition Order and 3 Closing Orders were cancelled after satisfactory completion of reconditioning works.

3 properties were demolished.

Improvement Grants:

The number of applications shows an increase compared with last year from 62 to 118. Approvals were given to 90 Improvement and 25 Standard Grants. 3 Improvement Grants were refused. Grants, Improvement and Standard, actually paid during the year for completed works totalled £24,808.

The total figures, since the introduction of grants, up to 31st December, 1970, are as follows:-

Improvement Grants:

No. of Grants on Council property.	3
No. of private properties covered by applications received.	840
No. approved.	764
No. refused.	60
No. withdrawn before approval.	16
	<u>840</u>
Grants paid during the year.	<u>£19,605</u>

Standard Grants:

Total number of applications received to date ... 439

Grants actually paid during the year for completed Standard Grant works totalled £5,203 in respect of 30 properties, of which 12 were Higher Limit Grants providing, in addition to the 5 standard amenities, 8 bathrooms, 4 piped water supplies and 5 septic tank drainage systems.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection:

Last year I reported that the increasing work load would necessitate new route schedules in 1970. 932 extra collection points having accrued since the current scheme was set up 3 years earlier, the total labour force engaged on driving and collection was increased from 16 to 18 in March, one two-man crew being made up to a four-man team. All routes were replanned using work study values to give even distribution of work between teams and to incorporate provision for new development to be absorbed. The scheme continues to operate smoothly.

Preparations were made for introducing a regular collection of large refuse and dumped rubbish on lay-bys and roadsides in general. This has so far been done by using reserves, when available, and at other times when demands have built up, by hiring. The latter has proved increasingly expensive and not particularly efficient, so that a change is clearly due.

Bonus Incentive Schemes:

The Council's refuse collectors are already covered by a bonus incentive scheme based on work study.

During the year Management Consultants have been engaged in preparing reports on schemes for other manual workers and I hope all our employees will be covered by a scheme during 1971.

The staff of the department has been required to devote a considerable amount of time on preparatory work for the Consultants.

Refuse Disposal:

The question of Incineration was considered in conjunction with the Aylesbury Borough Council and proposals prepared by Consultants. Plants were visited at home and abroad but no firm decision on future policy had been taken by the end of the year. It was clearly necessary to make arrangements for an alternative site to Hartwell in any case since the life of the tip was now a matter of months rather than years.

Arrangements for undertaking bulk transport to another site were being actively pursued for introduction early in 1971.

Salvage:

Waste paper was baled and disposed of during the year to the value of £515.10s.7d. (£515.53).

Street Cleansing:

This work is only undertaken in the Parish of Wendover.

Cesspool Emptying:

A Work Study programme was commenced on this service but had not been completed or acted upon by the end of the year.

The work is still carried out by three vehicles. Pail closets were reduced to 118. The continued use of these "facilities" can only be considered an indictment, and the carrying out of further sewerage schemes must be strongly urged in order to get this figure effectively reduced.

Tipping areas still present a great problem which remained unchanged throughout the year.

LAND DRAINAGE

The Contract for works to straighten and reform the watercourse from Baker Street to Warmstone at Waddesdon was completed. Culverts of increased capacity were also laid and the work has proved to be satisfactory.

The effect of considerable drainage works at Ickford was being kept under observation and although great benefit had clearly been derived, conditions had not been experienced during the year to enable a completely satisfactory report to be given.

The drainage problem at Quarrendon was finally resolved with completion of the long-awaited work on the road culvert on the gated road.

Local Authorities are now required to give special attention to the disposal of surface water from new development and to obtain details from developers where a discharge of surface water is likely to result. Consultation has also to be carried out with the river authority where appropriate.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Haddenham Disposal Works after many delays was put into use in December, whilst the Sludge Pressing Plant on the site was due to undergo trials.

The Stone Works Extensions were also completed about the same time.

Unfortunately no new contracts were started, there being frustrating delays and difficulties, especially over sites for works and pumping stations.

Authority to invite tenders was received for the Stone and District Scheme but none of the other projects could be advanced to this stage.

The fact-finding visit by an Engineering Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government was made in February to obtain up to date information on the District generally before the Ministry replied to the Council's request for a rolling programme of sewerage schemes.

Later in the year approval in principle was received from the Ministry for such a programme and for schemes at Broughton, Cheersley and Dorton. Approval was also sought for schemes at Ludgershall and Kingsey.

After considerable delay in the acquisition of land, a small sewage disposal plant has been constructed at Honeyburge, Boarstall and the nuisance from the drainage of the Council Houses there eliminated. Provision has been made in the design of the plant to treat the effluent from private houses in the area should this become necessary at some future date.

Sewers serving a number of estates throughout the District have been taken over after the necessary checking and inspections had been carried out. With the increasing use of land for development below the level of existing sewers, the need for small pumping stations arises and this is likely to continue. In most cases the Council take over responsibility for these after design and construction has been approved and a capital contribution made by the Developer.

FOOD INSPECTION

Inspection of food premises and mobile shops has been maintained. No prosecutions were taken but warnings were required in one or two instances. The standard generally however, is satisfactory.

Carcases for retention in a cold store within the District are received from outside the area and these are checked before eventual release.

No. of visits to slaughterhouses	...	...	...	56
No. of carcasses inspected	...	...	...	128
Weight of meat condemned at slaughterhouses	...			1 cwt. 65 lbs.
" " wholesale premises	...	...	...	- 50 lbs.
" " other foods condemned	...	...		3 cwts. 40 lbs.

4 additional premises were registered for the sale of ice-cream.

WATER SUPPLY

The District is effectively covered by the Bucks Water Board mains. No extensions needing financial assistance from this Authority occurred during the year.

PEST DESTRUCTION

This work is carried out by one operator who in addition to routine visits attends to infestations reported by householders. Business premises are also covered but any service given is charged for. The infestations dealt with are principally rats and mice, but help is afforded with a variety of other pests whenever possible. It has been necessary however in relation to wasp's nests which can occur in very large numbers during a defined period to undertake destruction only at a charge and when circumstances permit.

LOCAL LAND CHARGES

Information concerning notices served is supplied when official search of the Land Charges Register is applied for. This information relates not only to Housing and Public Health Act notices but also Planning Permission conditions. 1,142 were dealt with during the year.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The following is a statistical summary of work under this Act during the year:-

REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of Premises	No.of premises registered during the year.	No.of Registered premises at the end of year.	No.of registered premises rec'ng a general inspection during the year.
Offices	-	36	2
Retail shops	1	96	13
Wholesale shops, Warehouses	-	3	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	-	21	-
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-
<u>Total:</u>	1	156	15

TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES UNDER THE ACT 40

6 minor contraventions were dealt with during the year.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENT ACT, 1963

8 existing Licences were renewed for the year.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

One Pet Shop Licence was renewed under the Act in respect of premises at which are kept tropical and cold water fish, terrapins and cage birds.

PETROLEUM STORAGE

During the year your officers have participated in drawing up new constructional requirements and licensing conditions for use by authorities in the County and to be in accordance with the latest Home Office Model Code.

The new form of licence is for renewals due at the end of 1970.

A total of 84 Licences were in force at the end of the year.

There are no major installations or distributing depots in the district.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964

5 registrations remained effective with this Authority at the end of the year.

STREET NAMING AND NUMBERING

Street naming and numbering was confined to new estates and similar developments, there being no extension of street naming to further villages within the District.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

One instrument is operated in this District in connection with the National Survey of Air Pollution. The weekly readings are recorded and sent to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research every month.

NEW DEVELOPMENT

Consideration of applications for estate development in unsewered areas should be thoroughly investigated and the responsibility for meeting the cost of sewerage facilities clearly determined before any approval is issued. At least one case has been reported (not in this District) where the Local Authority has been left with the very costly responsibility of sewerage a newly developed area. When considering outline applications, implications such as this can easily be overlooked and left to the detailed stage when the Authority may find itself already committed.

The condition of roads on new estates has shown an improved trend over past years, and it is to be hoped that this matter will now receive close attention in order to avoid the conditions which have given rise to strong complaints in the past.

Efforts have been made to cut down the number of delays in dealing with planning applications and whilst these do, and will still, occur I think some success can be claimed in this direction.

NEW BUILDINGS

The number of plans submitted during the year totalled 880.

These are summarised as follows:-

Building Regulations - Town and Country Planning Acts.

Dwelling Houses

New	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	72 for 136 houses
Layout plans	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2 for 42 houses.
Outline applications	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	143
Conversions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
Alterations and Additions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	272
Change of Use	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24

Industrial

New	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Alterations and Additions to Factories and Workshops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Outline applications	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Change of use	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5

Miscellaneous

Agricultural Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	66
Private Garages	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	134
Caravans	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Others	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	110
Applications cancelled	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16

Number of Dwellings completed

Private	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	130
Local Authority	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	48
									<u>178</u>

Decisions on 8 Planning Appeals were received, of which 3 were allowed and 5 dismissed.

Two applications were granted for relaxation of Building Regulations during the year.

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

New Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3135
Abandoned Vehicles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	55
Animal Boarding Establishments and Pet Shops	..	..						3
Clean Air Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	63
Cleansing (including Work Study)				..	..	..	..	149
Civic Amenities Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	72
Dangerous Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	91
Ditches & Watercourses		..	..	..	..	..	..	210
Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	576
Drain Tests	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	538
Factories	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
Food Premises and Food Inspection				..	..	..	..	116
Housing Acts	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	253
Improvement Grants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	898
Infestation and Infectious Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33
Land Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	88
Levelling & Surveys	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	197
Moveable Dwellings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	38
Nuisances	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	163
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	..	..						40
Petroleum Acts	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	98
Public Health	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	136
Refuse Collection and Scavenging				..	..	..	..	224
Refuse Collection (Work Study)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	58
Rodent Control	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1550
Sewage Works	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	422
Sewerage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	966
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	56
Street Naming and Numbering				..	..	..	..	55
Water Supply	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	43
Water Samples	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30

Finally, I wish to record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Committee for their help and support at all times and particularly to the Staff of the Department for their work during the year under review.

Your obedient Servant,

R.A.CANT, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., M.S.E.

Chief Public Health Inspector and
Building Surveyor.

